

J. FRANK BAKER STILL BATS 1.000 IN RETIRING LEAGUE—HE'S QUIT AGAIN

1920 MAY BE END OF TRAIL FOR E. CICOTTE

Slim Sallee and Chicago Veteran Both Fooled Old Doc Time Last Season, but They Can't Go on for Many More Years

By GRANTLAND RICE
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ALTHOUGH it seems that last year, just as the idea of February was in full blast, there were two noted athletes who had been checked out across the border with complete citizenship papers for Has-Been Land. Both had served long and honorable careers, but their days were supposed to be over, with twilight already drifting in.

One of these was Edward V. Cicotte, of the White Sox.

The other was Harry F. Sallee, transferred from New York to Cincinnati.

The Double Return

NEITHER was of any particular use in 1919, but 1919 proved to be another year.

Between them they won fifty ball games—more than any other two pitchers in the two leagues.

One put the White Sox through and the other was largely responsible for the Red upthrust.

They had the two best years they had ever known at a time when they had been checked off the list.

For 1920

THE Old Doc with the fancy syringe allotted them a new lease on life last year. But how about 1920?

Cicotte will be thirty-six years old this next June. Sallee was thirty-five on February 3.

They have each been pitching fifteen years in fast company, or about as long as a pitcher can last in front of hostile bats.

Cicotte had the tougher year to handle, and by late September was pretty well fagged. In spite of this, he won more games than any other pitcher in either league, and finished second to Walter Johnson in general effectiveness.

Cicotte stroled along at an even clip with his famous slow ball only a trifle slower than ever.

But both have reached the time now when it is merely a matter of one more season—or the end of the road.

Important Factors

ONE way or another, they will be important factors this season. If Cicotte skids badly, as many think he will, the White Sox case will be next to hopeless.

There is hardly a chance that he will be as good as he was last summer, but the Old Timer may have one more surprise left, and have at least a substantial year.

Sallee's case is different. The crafty southpaw is working in the midst of a big stable where he can take his time. He has never depended on speed, and if he worked only one game a week is sure to render able assistance to Moran's staff. He isn't likely to win more than twenty games again, but he will turn in quite a few with a winning club at his back. The showing made by this ancient pair will be an interesting feature of the impending campaign.

Is Unlucky?

WALTER JOHNSON last fall completed his thirteenth campaign as a major league pitcher.

As he led his league in effectiveness and allowed only 1.49 earned runs in the contest, the unlucky attachments to thirteen are not quite in evidence. He starts his fourteenth season less than thirty-three years old, and with that winless pitching motion he employs he should be a winning pitcher for at least five more summers.

Johnson's best year was in 1913, when he allowed only 1.09 runs to the opposition. But 1919 was his next best performance, full proof that he is on the highway to stick for several years to come.

One Best Bet for 1920—Claude Williams not to pitch the first world series game next fall.

THE head hold is rarely successful as a wrestling grip. The head is the wrestler's one invulnerable sector.

THERE is a rumor abroad that the prohibition movement will have California suppressed, as the air over this is

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104 S. 4th St., near Chestnut.
2226 Front St., near Chestnut.
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